

trifling in fruit which glorifies Christ. Relying upon the promise, "I am with you always," I willingly leave results with Him for in due time he will use them to glorify his name. In the onward march of primitive Christianity the church at Maple Grove will not be in the rear.

*Oakvill.*—For two months past this church has been almost a flock without a shepherd. On account of sickness and protracted work we have been able to give them but one service during the time mentioned. However the class here are not of that sort who must have a guard to keep them from the devil's service. They do not go to meeting just to hear the preacher. Neither have they ever pinned their religion to any man's coat tail. In the absence of their pastor they kept working out their salvation with fear and trembling. Dropping in unexpectedly at their midweek prayer meeting I was delighted to see a large number present, and among them many young people who willingly took a part. I thought surely here are disciples "whom Jesus loves." May many more of our young people seek to secure that title. It is more to be desired than D. D. or LL. D. Thank God the poorest, the weakest, and the least cultured may secure it. The Young People's Society and the Sunday school are going steadily forward. Having good attendance and increasing in interest. The former has added several new members recently. Missions and mission work is the special work taken up, they arranged with Mr. Cullpepper, of Venezuela. S. A., now of Upland, Ind., to lecture on Saturday evening, April 1, and to preach Sunday following. I was not permitted to attend but doubtless much good was done, in fact no one can hear Brother Cullpepper and not be a warmer advocate of missions. Whatever will produce among the people a greater missionary activity is good. The fire has started, pile on the fuel and soon the chilled and benumbed Christians who do not believe in missions will be warmed up to real spiritual life, and then spiritual activity which is only another name for missionary activity, will follow.

*Bethel.*—Tho we have been in attendance at each monthly appointment here, yet the roads have been such that only those who had the courage and hardihood to walk and wade could attend services. On which account the attendance has been commendable. The zeal and earnest effort of the Brethren here is exemplary. The Sunday school is well attended. And at the last appointment (Sunday), was made to rejoice to see a class of young men who used to take back seats and look on, engaged in reciting the lesson. A church or Sunday school which is looking after the young men is not on the decline.

*Some Shots from the Pen.*—Two members were discussing the propriety of bringing before the church some conduct which was not thought expedient which had been committed by one of their members, when I overheard this remark, "Let us sweep hard and clean before our own door before we sweep our neighbor's dooryard." Two others were

talking upon duty when one said, "I like the EVANGELIST because it tells me so plainly my duty in living as I pray even to voting." Amen.

L. W. DITCH.

Cowan, Ind.

Salisbury, Pa.

Friends from a distance, who were former members of the Brethren church in this county, have been inquiring for us, and ask that we report occasionally thro the EVANGELIST. One of our members, now living in California, who is closely related to the editorial regime, has especially requested such reports. The pastor, Dr. Mackey, has referred the matter to me, with the indefinite instructions to "go ahead and report."

Our church is thriving—members increase. The financial status gets better, and the interest and earnestness in the work becomes more intense.

A few of us were discussing our present condition a day or so ago, and the unanimous verdict was, that, as an organization, we have prospered along all lines, are well equipped for our labors, and among our number (nearly one hundred), there is not a single "kicker." For all we bless the dear Lord whom we are endeavoring faithfully to serve.

Brother Mackey preaches with his accustomed power and devotes his full time to our cause. A large number of young people, notably young men, are attracted to the Sunday services, and the several auxiliary departments are enthusiastically attended. We have organized and at work, the S. S. C. E., Y. P. S. C. E. and local mission board, prayer meeting and Sabbath school, and Bible exposition class, and social receptions—all progressing nicely and with vigor.

The leading members of our church, as the publishing office is aware, subscribe for the EVANGELIST and Brother Mackey is most anxious to have it enter every home. The position of pastor and people is, that, as long as the EVANGELIST is the authorized and official organ of the Brethren church, although it may not always voice the true sentiment of the brotherhood and manifests occasional defects, it is our duty to support it loyally. We have not, as a church, seen our way clear to apply the same line of argument to the literature published by the board.

When we make this statement we wish the office to know that the editor is not held wholly responsible for any weakness exhibited in the literature. The editor has not efficient staff support, and this is to be deplored, as it lessens his possibilities; for the churches, feeling their first duty to their young people, cannot, further than a certain point work themselves with the "loyalty of the publishing house" argument, but will select for their home schools the best helps they can secure.

We are hoping that the general conference of this year may devise more liberally for the publishing house—unless it does put more money into the concern—I mean hand down the hard cash, in dollars and cents, so that

the best brains may be secured and put to use, instead of depending on one man's, with whatever he can beg, we apprehend that the enterprise shall remain no better than it is.

When the church shows the disposition of loyalty to herself, she will demand the best literature, and if she wants it to be denominational she will furnish the means to supply the best.

The publication interests of the church are now old enough to either be improved or abandoned.

We trust the church may conclude that the former is due to herself. When a movement of this kind is made, clearly and definitely, the Salisbury church will do her part.

MRS. J. E. WILLIAMS.

Montour, Iowa

The little band of brethren at Montour is still laboring in peace and harmony. There have 5 more members moved in our congregation which is quite an addition to our little band. We have good congregations, with the best of order. It seems marvelous to me when I think that six years ago I stood alone in the Progressive Brethren church, today we have a church house paid for, with money in the treasury, with about 30 members. We have had all kinds of opposition. My relations, who were Conservatives, were strongly opposed to us, but thank the Lord, it is giving way. We held meetings in a Christian College, where there were 20 or 30 of their ministers. They used the school house every alternate Sunday. When I talked on trine immersion they replied to me, this happened twice, when I think they were glad to leave us alone. Then came the Seventh Day Adventists, who had to reply to two of my sermons on the Sabbath. As a result one of their families came over to us. So we have had our ups and downs, but we thank the Lord for the trials that he has brought us thro. The eighth of this month I was suddenly taken ill; my fever or temperature was up to 106. Yesterday I was out for the first time; I am very weak. Pray for us.

FETTER HALL.

Communion Notices

The Brethren of the New Enterprise congregation will hold their spring communion on Monday evening, April 24, 1899. All of like faith are invited to come and be with us.

The Brethren of the Tiosa congregation will hold their spring communion on Monday evening, May 8, 1899. All of like precious faith are invited to come and be with us.

D. A. HOPKINS.

Card of Thanks

We take this method of expressing our heart felt thanks to the following persons for their fond remembrance of us: to brother A. M. Gordon of Salem church for a jug of maple syrup and to brother B. F. Coppoc of Bloomer, Ohio, for a jug of maple syrup and to sister Ella Ridenhour of Salem church for a box of fine artificial flowers. May heavens blessings attend them all.

WM. W. SUMMERS.  
HATTIE SUMMERS.